

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS ALBUQUERQUE AREA OFFICE P. O. BOX 8327 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87198

Environmental Quality

NOV 0 6 1988

Mr. Michael J. Brennan Holland and Hart Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 8749 Denver. Colorado 87020

Dear Mr. Brennan:

We have reviewed your joint letter dated August 12, 1986, in which the Pueblo of Laguna (POL) agreed to assume certain security responsibilities at Anaconda Minerals Company's (AMC) Jackpile-Paguate Uranium Mine (Pueblo of Laguna Leases 1, 4, 8). As stated in our April 4, 1985, order to AMC, we feel that increased security is necessary, would provide benefits for all parties, and should be implemented as soon as possible. This letter revises our order of April 9, 1985, issued to AMC.

The proposals made in Item 7 of your joint letter provides a basis for improving security at the minesite. However, we feel that the following additions and/or clarifications are necessary before we could accept the proposals in the August 12 letter:

- 1. Under Item 7a, minesite patrols should be made each day but not necessarily the same time each day. The patrol route should include, at a minimum, the south side of the minesite (along the new Route 279 alignment), the old Woodrow Mine area, the area east of the dumps C, D, E, F, and G, the housing area, and the P-10 office and shop area. Additionally, the fencing on the west side of the minesite should be checked each day.
- 2. We feel that placement of warning signs is necessary. The signs described in Item 3 of the April 4 Bureau of Land Management (BLM)/Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) order should be placed on the existing fence on the western boundary of the minesite. On the east side of the minesite, the signs can be placed on individual poles spaced not further than every 100 yards. Fencing of the east side is no longer required, but strongly encouraged.
- 3. We also suggest the Pueblo of Laguna pass a Tribal resolution (consistent with the Pueblo's constitutional authority) to make trespassing on the minesite a Tribal offense. This resolution should provide for fines and other penalties, such as Tribal impoundment of trespass animals. We understand the Pueblo of Laguna has agreed to enact such a resolution or ordinance. Such an ordinance is also required prior to BIA issuance of a contract for reclamation of the minesite.

Exhibit B

We feel the procedures described above are the minimum that would be acceptable.

Sincerely,

Barry Welch Assistant Area Director Albuquerque Area Office Bureau of Indian Affairs

Herrick E. Hanks

Rio Puerco Resource Area Manager

Bureau of Land Management